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METHOD FOR INHIBITING THE GROWTH OF ANTIBIOTIC-RESISTANT
BACTERIA

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention relates to a method for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria and a method for the manufacture of a corresponding composition, to such a composition and to uses of the composition.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Infection caused by antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria, often termed "multiple-resistant", are a major problem in 15 health care. By "multiple-resistant" is understood the resistance against at least one antibiotic known to be effective against a corresponding non-resistant strain. In the context of this specification an antibiotic is an agent which can be administered topically to a person in form of a 20 pharmaceutical, and which composition specifically interacts with the metabolism of the bacterium or bacteria against which it is used. The term antibiotic thus excludes mere disinfectants which exhibit a non-specific antimicrobial action which are harmful also to the skin and for which the 25 skin can be exposed for a short time at best or not at all, such as chlorhexidine and aqueous hypochlorite, respectively.

Multiple-resistant bacteria strains are known to emerge due to the often excessive use of antibiotics. In order to keep the 30 propagation of multiple-resistant bacteria at bay, strict infection control measures are called for as well as a more restrictive use of antibiotics.

The most important nosocomial resistance problems are caused 35 by methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, vancomycin-

resistant enterococci, and enterobacteriaceae with plasmid-encoded extended-spectrum β -lactamases.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

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It is an object of the invention to provide a method for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria.

10 It is a further object of the invention to provide such a method in which there is no risk of further selection of multiple-resistant bacterial strains.

15 It is an additional object of the invention to provide a method for the manufacture of a composition for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria.

Further objects of the invention will become apparent from the following summary of the invention, the description of preferred embodiments thereof, and the appended claims.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is based on the insight that pentane-1,5-diol is effective against multiple-resistant bacteria. The inventors have found that compositions comprising 15% by weight of more of pentane-1,5-diol and a suitable carrier that lacks bacteriostatic effect or the bacteriostatic effect of which is less than 5% on a weight basis of the bacteriostatic effect of pentane-1,5-diol in respect of a particular microorganism provide efficient bacteriostasis against multiple-resistant bacteria. This is entirely unexpected even in view of the known moderate antibacterial effect of pentane-1,5-diol and similar diols. In addition, there is reason to believe that the bacteriostatic effect of the invention is shared by other low-molecular weight aliphatic diols, such as

propane-1,2-diol, propane-1,3-diol, butane-1,2-diol, butane-1,3-diol, butane-1,4-diol, butane-2,3-diol, 2-methylpropane-1,2-diol, 2-methylpropane-1,3-diol, 2-hydroxymethyl-1-propanol, pentane-1,2-diol, pentane-2,3-diol, 2-hydroxymethyl-5 1-butanol, 2-methylbutane-1,2-diol, 3-methylbutane-1,2-diol, 2-methylbutane-1,3-diol, 3-methylbutane-1,3-diol, 2-methylbutane-1,4-diol, hexane-1,2-diol, hexane-1,6-diol, 2-methylpentane-1,5-diol, 3-methylpentane-1,5-diol.

10 Due to the low acute and long-term toxicity of pentane-1,5-diol the bacteriostatic composition of the invention may be used as a pharmaceutical for topical administration but also as a disinfectant which, in contrast to other efficient disinfectants, poses no health risk to persons using it. An 15 additional advantage of the composition of the invention is that it does not give rise to resistant strains of bacteria.

The composition of the invention may take the form of a liquid, semi-liquid or solid disinfectant preparation, a 20 bacteriostatic solution, lotion, cream, soap, shampoo, ointment, paste, wet towel, hygiene dish, patch, diaper or similar personal hygiene protection device.

In a preferred embodiment the composition of the invention is combined with antibiotic, antiviral agent, antiseptic, agent 25 for treatment of acne and with other agents used in the treatment of infectious diseases of the skin and the mucous membranes.

30 In another preferred embodiment the composition of the invention comprises an anionic emulsifier, such as Cetylanoium.

If intended for application to the skin or mucous membranes, the composition of the invention preferably comprises one or 35 several of tonicity adjustment agent such as sodium chloride,

moisturizing agent such as carbamide and lactic acid, UV-absorbing agent, colorant such as calcium carbonate and zinc oxide, and fragrant such as an aetheric oil. The composition of the invention may also comprise a cationic, neutral, or 5 anionic detergent, in particular a salt of a fatty acid.

More particularly, according to the present invention is disclosed a method for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria by topical administration of a 10 pharmaceutical composition comprising more 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier such as an aqueous carrier, in particular water or saline. The pharmaceutical composition preferably consists of pentane-1,5-diol and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier. 15 Topical administration by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a combination of these materials provided with the composition is particularly preferrec.

According to the invention is also disclosed a method of 20 manufacture of a medicament for topical administration for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria, said method comprising the incorporation of 15% by weight or more of 1,5-pentanediol in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. The pharmaceutically acceptable carrier preferably has no 25 bacteriostatic effect of its own or a bacteriostatic effect which is less than 5% on a weight basis of the bacteriostatic effect of pentane-1,5-diol in respect of a particular microorganism. It is also preferred for the carrier to comprise a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a 30 combination of these materials. The carrier is preferably an aqueous carrier.

According to an advantageous aspect of the invention is disclosed a method for inhibiting the growth of multiple- 35 resistant bacteria by application of a bacteriostatic

composition comprising 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol and a suitable carrier to a non-porous surface (metal, wood, laquer, plastic...) contaminated with said bacteria.

- Preferably this bacteriostatic composition essentially
- 5 consists of pentane-1,5-diol and a carrier which is essentially free from other bacteriostatic agents. It is preferred for the carrier to be an aqueous carrier which advantageously may comprise a thickening agent. Preferred thickening agents are agents selected from cellulose
- 10 derivatives, in particular methyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl-propyl cellulose. According to a further advantageous aspect of the invention the carrier comprises a salt of a fatty acid. According to a still further advantageous aspect of the invention the bacteriostatic
- 15 composition is comprised by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a combination thereof.

- According to the invention is also disclosed the use of a composition comprising 15% or more by weight of pentane-1,5-diol and a suitable carrier for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria. Preferably the carrier is an aqueous carrier, optionally comprising a thickening agent selected from cellulose derivatives, in particular methyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl-propyl cellulose. The carrier may advantageously include a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a combination thereof.

- According to the invention is furthermore disclosed a method of disinfecting a surface contaminated with multiple resistant
- 30 bacteria, comprising:

- providing a disinfecting composition comprising 15% or more by weight of pentane-1,5-diol and a suitable carrier;
- applying said composition to said surface;

- optionally, keeping said composition in contact with said surface for a period of time from 5 min to 24 hrs at ambient temperature,
- rinsing said surface with water or an aqueous detergent composition.

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The present invention will now be explained by reference to a number of preferred embodiments, which are only given to illustrate but not limit the invention.

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DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

EXAMPLE 1

- 15 Determination of inhibitory activity of pentane-1,5-diol against bacteria. The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of pentane-1,5-diol for a number of bacteria was assessed by a standard blood agar dilution technique (24 hrs, 37°C). Agar samples with pentane-1,5-diol concentrations increasing in steps of 2.5 % by weight were prepared by mixing the components at a temperature above the solidifying temperature of the agar prior to solidification. The following bacteria were investigated: methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MSRA), fucidic acid-resistant *S. aureus*, non-resistant *S. pyogenes*, coagulation-negative staphylococci (for resistance, see Table 1 below) vancomycin-resistant enterococci (*Enterococcus CCUG van A* and *van B*), non-resistant *Escherichia coli*, *Acinetobacter* resistant against cefadroxil, nitrofurantin, mecillinam, *Serratia maltophilia* resistant against most types of antibiotics, *Enterobacter* (for resistance, see Table 1 below; additionally resistant against cefadroxil and nitrofurantin), non-resistant α -streptococci, non-resistant *Streptococcus Group G*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (for resistance, see Table 2 below). Inocula of 10^3 and 10^5

bacteria were used. No major difference between the inocula was seen. This indicates that the inhibitory effect of pentane-1,5-diol is essentially independent of the inoculum size which contrasts to the behaviour of the majority of conventional antibiotics. The results are given in Tab. 1 and 5 2; resistance is indicated against selected antibiotics only.

Table. 1. Inhibitory effect of pentane-1,5-diol on various bacteria, including multiple-resistant (MR) bacteria; two 10 inoculate sizes.

<i>Bacterial strain</i>	<i>MIC (% by weight of pentane-1,5-diol)</i>		<i>MR against</i>			
	<i>Inoculate Size 10³</i>	<i>Inoculate Size 10⁵</i>	<i>fuc</i>	<i>met</i>	<i>cip</i>	<i>tri</i>
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8143	12.5	12.5	—			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8137	12.5	10.0	—			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8163	12.5	17.5	+			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8150	12.5	15.0	—			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8184	10.0	12.5	+			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8155	10.0	12.5	—			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8183	12.5	17.5	—			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8180	12.5	15.0	—			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8181	12.5	15.0	—			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8191	12.5	15.0	—			
<i>S.aureus</i> 916x8158	12.5	15.0	—			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 900x5539	7.5	10.0	—			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 900x5515	12.5	15.0	+			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 900x5538	5.0	12.5	—			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 900x5525	ND	7.5	—			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 900x5516	7.5	12.5	—			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 904x2816	10.0	17.5	+			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 902x14176 large	7.5	20.0	—			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 902x14176 small	7.5	10.0	+			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 916x8132	7.5	12.5	—			
<i>Coag.neg.staph.</i> 916x8188	15.0	17.5	—			
<i>MRSA CCUG</i> 47019	10.0	17.5	+	+		
<i>MRSA CCUG</i> 46870	10.0	17.5	+	+		
<i>MRSA CCUG</i> 46740	12.5	17.5	+	+		
<i>MRSA CCUG</i> 46618	12.5	15.0	+	+		
<i>MRSA CCUG</i> 46463	10.0	15.0	+	+		
<i>MRSA CCUG</i> 45008	12.5	15.0	+	+		
<i>MRSA CCUG</i> 45007	10.0	12.5	+	+		
<i>MRSA PB/SS</i>	12.5	15.0	+	+		
<i>MRSA Cypem</i>	7.5	10.0	+	+		
<i>MRSA CCUG</i> 41787	12.5	17.5	+	+		
<i>Enterococcus</i> 921x57057	7.5	10.9	—		+	+
<i>Enterococcus</i> 921x57022	5.0	7.5	—		—	—
<i>Enterococcus</i> 921x57002	7.5	10.0	+	—	—	—
<i>Enterococcus</i> 921x57093	7.5	10.0	+	—	—	+
<i>Enterococcus</i> 921x57158	7.5	7.5	+	—	—	+

PENTANE-1,5-DIOL

<i>Enterococcus CCUG 39128 vanA</i>	5.0	10.0	+	+
<i>Enterococcus CCUG 43324 vanA</i>	7.5	10.0	+	+
<i>Enterococcus CCUG 37832 vanA</i>	5.0	7.5	+	+
<i>Enterococcus CCUG 37593 vanB</i>	5.0	7.5	+	+
<i>E.coli 921x57418</i>	5.0	10.0		
<i>E.coli 921x57397</i>	5.0	10.0		
<i>E.coli 921x57389</i>	5.0	10.0		
<i>E.coli 921x57388</i>	5.0	10.0		
<i>E.coli 921x57387</i>	5.0	10.0		+
<i>Enterobacter 921x57574</i>	5.0	10.0		-
<i>Enterobacter 921x57514</i>	5.0	10.0		-
<i>Enterobacter 921x57416</i>	5.0	10.0		-
<i>Enterobacter 921x57119</i>	5.0	10.0		-
<i>Enterobacter 921x57100</i>	5.0	10.0		-
<i>Enterobacter 921x57097</i>	5.0	10.0		-
<i>P.aeruginosa CCUG 17619</i>	5.0	5.0		
<i>P.aeruginosa 921x57855</i>	ND	10.0	+	-

fuc = fucidin; met = methicillin; van = vancomycin; cip = ciprofloxacin; tri = trimetoprim

5 Table 2. Inhibitory effect of pentane-1,5-diol on various bacteria, including multiple-resistant (MR) bacteria; one inoculate size.

Bacterial Strain	MIC (% by weight of pentane-1,5-diol)	Inoculate Size 10^3	MR resistant against	fuc	met	van	cip	tri
<i>Alphastreptococci 912x1135</i>	7.5							
<i>Alphastreptococci 912x1137</i>	5.0							
<i>Alphastreptococci 912x1138</i>	5.0							
<i>Alphastreptococci 912x1139</i>	7.5							
<i>Alphastreptococci 912x1200</i>	7.5							
<i>S. pyogenes, group A 912x1115</i>	7.5							
<i>S. pyogenes, group A 912x1119</i>	7.5							
<i>S. pyogenes, group A 912x1121</i>	7.5							
<i>S. pyogenes, group A 912x1090</i>	7.5							
<i>S. pyogenes, group A 912x1131</i>	7.5							
<i>Streptococcus group G 915x1095</i>	7.5							
<i>Streptococcus group G 915x1146</i>	7.5							
<i>Streptococcus group G 900x1714</i>	10.0							
<i>Streptococcus group G 916x10985</i>	7.5							
<i>Streptococcus group G 912x1106</i>	7.5							
<i>Streptococcus group C 912x1185</i>	10.0							
<i>Streptococcus group C 912x1114</i>	10.0							
<i>Streptococcus group C 900x1618</i>	7.5							
<i>Acinetobacter 921x16968</i>	5.0							
<i>Acinetobacter 921x113359</i>	2.5							
<i>Acinetobacter 516x748</i>	2.5							
<i>Acinetobacter 514x1224</i>	5.0							
<i>Acinetobacter 116x305</i>	5.0							
<i>Acinetobacter 117x217</i>	5.0							
<i>S. maltophilia 921x16157</i>	5.0							
<i>S. maltophilia 515x1269</i>	2.5							

<i>S. maltophilia</i> 516x679	5.0	
<i>S. maltophilia</i> 515x695	5.0	
<i>S. maltophilia</i> 900x1230	5.0	
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> 921x17701	5.0	+
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> 921x17748	5.0	-
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> 921x17756	5.0	+

EXAMPLE 2

Acute toxicity of pentane-1,5-diol. The acute toxicity of
 5 pentane-1,5-diol was tested for peroral and topical
 administration as well as on inhalation.

Peroral administration. Varying doses of pentane-1,5-diol were
 administered to male Carworth-Wistar rats weighing from 90 to
 10 120 g). The dose was logarithmically increased by a factor of
 2. Over a fortnight period LD₅₀ was found to be 5.89 g/kg body
 weight. For test conditions, see: H F Smyth et al., Range
 finding toxicity data: List VI. Ind. Hygiene J. 1962:March-
 April; 59-97.

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Topical administration. The penetration of rabbit skin was
 tested with a cuff model. The hair on the back of four male
 rabbits weighing from 2.5 to 3.5 kg was removed by shaving,
 the diol applied to the skin with a pipette, and the skin
 20 sealed with polyethylene film for 24 hrs. During the test
 period the animals were immobilised. After the exposure the
 animals were observed over a fortnight period. Even at the
 highest tested dose, 20 ml/kg, the animals survived.

25 Inhalation. Six rats were made to breath air saturated with
 pentane-1,5-diol for 8 hrs. None of the animals died.

EXAMPLE 3

30 Skin irritation test with a medical patch provided with a
 pentane-1,5-diol composition. A sterile medical cotton patch 5

x 5 x 1 cm (uncompressed) in size backed by a perforated polyethylene film was provided with about 3 g of pentane-1,5-diol on its front side and positioned against the skin of a male volunteer (upper left arm) for a period of 24 hrs. Upon removal of the patch the skin seemed free from irritation.

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CLAIMS

1. A method of inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria by topical administration of a pharmaceutical composition comprising 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said composition consists of pentane-1,5-diol and said carrier.
3. The method of claim 1 or 2, wherein the administration is topical.
4. The method of any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the administration is by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a combination thereof provided with said composition.
5. A method of manufacture of a medicament for topical administration for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria, said method comprising the incorporation of 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable carrier has a bacteriostatic effect which is less than 5% on a weight basis of the bacteriostatic effect of pentane-1,5-diol in respect of a particular microorganism.
7. The method of claim 5 or 6, wherein said carrier is comprised by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a combination thereof.
8. A method for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria by application of a bacteriostatic composition

comprising more 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol and a suitable carrier to a surface contaminated by said bacteria.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said composition essentially
5 consists of pentane-1,5-diol and a carrier which is
essentially free from other bacteriostatic agents.

10. The method of claim 8 or 9, wherein the carrier is an
aqueous carrier.

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11. The method of claim 10, wherein the aqueous carrier
comprises a thickening agent.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said thickening agent is
15 selected from cellulose derivatives such as methyl cellulose,
hydroxymethyl cellulose, hydroxymethyl-propyl cellulose.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the carrier comprises a
detergent, in particular a salt of a fatty acid.

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14. The method of any of claims 8-13 wherein the composition
is comprised by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a
combination thereof.

25 15. Use of a composition comprising 15% or more by weight of
pentant-1,2-diol and a suitable carrier for inhibiting the
growth of multiple-resistant bacteria.

30 16. The use of claim 15, wherein the carrier is an aqueous
carrier.

17. The use of claim 15 or 16, wherein the carrier is
comprised by a patch of a woven or non-woven material or a
combination thereof provided with said composition.

18. A method of disinfecting a non-porous surface contaminated with multiple resistant bacteria, comprising:

- providing a disinfecting composition comprising 5 15% or more by weight of pentane-1,5-diol and a suitable carrier;
- applying said composition to said surface;
- optionally, keeping said composition in contact with said surface for a period of time from 5 min 10 to 24 hrs at ambient temperature,
- rinsing said surface with water or an aqueous detergent composition.

Abstract

A method for inhibiting the growth of multiple-resistant bacteria comprises the topical administration of a pharmaceutical composition comprising 15% by weight or more of pentane-1,5-diol and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier. Also disclosed is a method of preparing a corresponding medicament. A method of disinfecting a surface contaminated with multiple-resistant bacteria comprises providing a disinfecting composition comprising 15% or more by weight of pentane-1,5-diol and an aqueous carrier, applying the composition to the surface; optionally, keeping it in contact with the surface for a period of time from 5 min to 24 hrs at ambient temperature, and rinsing the surface with water or an aqueous detergent composition. Also disclosed is the use of a corresponding bacteriostatic composition.